

Jerash to the Red Sea: A Jordan Cultural Experience



Challenge Rating: 1 – Relaxed/Social Relaxed/Social (i.e., cultural touring, easy walks, light activity)

Drink and eat well while visiting the top sites in Jordan, participating in cultural experiences, including a stay at the highly regarded Feynan Ecolodge in the Dana Biosphere Reserve.

Summary

Before heading to Jordan's "Golden Triangle" - Petra, Wadi Rum, and Aqaba - in the south of Jordan, we visit historic and religious sites from centuries past. North of Amman, we visit the extensive Greco-Roman remains in Jerash. In the center of Amman, we experience the capital's ancient history and modern development. Next, we tour some of the top religious sites in the Holy Land on our way south.

The southern tour begins at Feynan Ecolodge, where we can experience an amazing display of stars at one of the top ecolodges in the world. No trip to Jordan is complete without a visit to the Rose Red city of Petra and the desert of Wadi Rum. We finish the tour with a relaxing boat ride and an opportunity to swim and snorkel in the Red Sea at Jordan's southern edge.

Highlights

- Experience Jordan's Top 3 sites: Jerash, Petra, and Wadi Rum
- Cultural immersion at Feynan Ecolodge, a world renown ecolodge
- Boat, swim, and snorkel in the Red Sea

Day 1 – May 2: Jerash & Amman City Tour + Wine Tasting

Note: You must arrive in Amman, Jordan on Tuesday, May 1



Amman - Larsa Hotel at 8:00AM

Our trip begins with a pick-up at the Larsa Hotel in Amman. We head north to walk through history in Jerash, regarded as one of the most important and best-preserved Roman cities in the Middle East. Back in Amman, we tour the Citadel and the Roman Theatre, two of the most popular archaeological sites in the city. Free time to walk through the old market in the downtown, visiting the shops and the fruit market. We stop at local restaurants to sample falafel, hummus, and "Kenafah," the Arab delicacy eaten at times of celebration. We cap off a great first day together with a wine tasting and dinner.

Overnight in Amman – Larsa Hotel

Lunch – Lunch Box Dinner – Wine Tasting & Dinner in Amman

Day 2 – May 3: Amman - Madaba - Mount Nebo - Baptism Site – Feynan



Amman – Larsa Hotel

Our trip begins with an early departure from Amman. Explore Madaba, the Christian town, famous for its exquisite 6th-century mosaics including the oldest preserved mosaic map of the Holy Lands. The history of this town dates back at least 3500 years, witnessing many great civilizations that inhabited this area, like the Romans and

Byzantines.

At Mount Nebo, we stand where Moses looked across to the Promised Land. He later died and was buried here. Mt. Nebo offers a fantastic view westward, with a vista that includes the Dead Sea, the West Bank, the Jordan River, and on a clear day, Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

Next, we visit the site where Jesus was baptized. Supported by biblical, archeological, and historical evidence, "Bethany Beyond the Jordan" (Al-Maghtas) is recognized as the authentic site of Jesus' baptism.

We end the day with a transfer to Feynan Ecolodge, considered to be one of the top 10 rated ecolodges in the world rated by National Geographic. Before dinner, take a guided sunset walk (around 20-30 min) up a nearby hilltop to enjoy views westwards as the sun sets over the vast Wadi Araba desert. Later, stargaze from the roof top.

Overnight in Feynan Ecolodge – Twin share rooms

Breakfast – Hotel

Lunch – Local Restaurant

Dinner – Feynan Ecolodge (Vegetarian)

Day 3 – May 4: Feynan Bedouin Experience



After breakfast enjoy one of the many activities offered by the ecolodge to be immersed in the landscape and culture of the area, such as hiking, local Bedouin community experiences, or cooking classes. After lunch we head south to magical Little Petra known as Beidha, where the Nabateans used to host their guests. Spend the night under the stars, enjoy the glow of lanterns on the rocks and the desert moonlight. (Little Petra is around 15 min away driving from Petra).

Overnight in Little Petra – Seven Wonders Bedouin Camp

Breakfast & Lunch – Feynan Ecolodge (Vegetarian)

Dinner – Seven Wonders Camp

Day 4 – May 5: Explore Petra

After breakfast in the camp, we drive to the Petra Visitor Centre. Petra is known by many names, a masterpiece half as old as time, the Red Rose city. Marvel at the beauty of the 'Lost City', only recently re-discovered by the outside world. Walk through the Siq (a narrow canyon) to reach the magnificent Treasury, the entrance guarding the ancient Nabatean city.



Farther into the city, witness the amphitheater and explore its many caves and tombs. After lunch, there is time to explore off the beaten path and visit some of the hidden treasures of Petra, such as the Monastery, or the high place of sacrifice or Jebel Khubtha, and the view overlooking the Treasury from above. From Petra, we depart for Wadi Rum for a magical and peaceful night in a Bedouin camp under the stars in the desert.

Wadi Rum Bedouin Camp – Al Captain Camp

Breakfast – Seven Wonders Lunch – Petra Restaurant Dinner – At Bedouin Camp

Day 5 – May 6: Wadi Rum Jeep Tour - Aqaba Free Time



We explore the vast desert and mountains of Wadi Rum in a 4x4 jeep (4-hour tour), following in the footsteps of Lawrence of Arabia, climbing sand dunes and rock bridges. The jeep tour allows us to travel around Wadi Rum's valleys, canyons, dunes and deserts, discover rock inscriptions, majestic views of mountains and narrow gorges. At each stop, we can take time to explore on foot.

Next, we head south to Aqaba where you have a free afternoon to spend relaxing and resting by the pool or beach or exploring the markets in town.

Overnight in Aqaba – Movenpick City Hotel

Breakfast – At Bedouin Camp Lunch – Wadi Rum Cooked Lunch

Dinner - Hotel

Day 6 – May 7: Aqaba Boat Ride & BBQ



We spend our final day enjoying a Yasmena boat ride with views across to four countries - Jordan, Israel, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. Time to swim and snorkel from the boat. Marvel at the colorful coral and the fantastic range of tropical fish.

Alternatively, or between breaks of swimming and snorkeling, you can sunbathe and relax on the boat's sun deck. We are treated with a lunch of grilled seafood and salads.

After lunch, we transfer to the Dead Sea to arrive by 4pm for the Adventure Next Conference.

Breakfast – Hotel

Lunch – BBQ Lunch on boat

Accommodation Summary:

Day 1: Amman Larsa Hotel - Single rooms (Wi-Fi in Rooms)

Day 2: Feynan Ecolodge - Twin shared rooms (Wi-Fi in reception area – signal is weak)

Day 3: Seven Wonders camp - Single tents (Wi-Fi in the camp)

Day 4: Al Captain Camp Wadi Rum - Twin shared tents (Wi-Fi in lobby/reception public area)

Day 5: Movenpick Aqaba – Twin Share rooms (Wi-Fi in Rooms)

Map of Route

Use the link below to access the interactive map:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ZTTZQ2FOAUULMusMN1OGQ12KJ1IqBGYJ&usp=sharing>



Group Size: 4-12 People

Price per person (non-hosted delegates) - \$899

Inclusions

- Accommodation as mentioned in the trip description
- Meals as mentioned in the trip description
- Tour guide to give insight into history and politics of the country whilst you walk
- Transport by A/C bus

Exclusions

- Flights
- Travel/Medical/Evacuation Insurance
- Departure taxes (Jordan \$15 pp at land borders). Airport tax is usually included on air-tickets.
- Tips to driver & guides
- Visa to Jordan -Purchase the [Jordan Pass - Explorer](#)- includes your Jordan entry visa and entrance to major sites including Petra (2-day pass). (NOTE: JTB will provide the Jordan Pass at no cost to hosted delegates)

Weather

Temperatures in Jordan can be hot and with little rain. The average temperature in May is 21°C/70°F, with highs reaching 27°C/80°F and lows around 14°C /57°C at night. The high temperatures may feel hotter in the sun all day. While the chance of rain is slight in May, it is still important to be prepared with a proper rain and wind proof jacket. Layering is important for protection from the sun and cool nights.

Things to Consider

Jordan is an Islamic nation and tends to be quite conservative, so you should dress accordingly. As a general guideline, shoulders and knees should be covered. Long shorts can be worn during hiking, though we generally recommend lightweight hiking trousers to keep the sun off. A light water and windproof jacket is useful and a sun hat essential. Loose, lightweight, long clothing is both respectful and cool in the predominantly hot climate.

Your luggage will be transported by vehicle to our accommodation each night.

Packing List

<p>Luggage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Medium duffle or rolling soft-sided luggage<input type="checkbox"/> Luggage lock<input type="checkbox"/> Packing cubes/stuff sacks/dry sacks<input type="checkbox"/> Day pack – 15-25 liters (water, camera, etc) <p>Clothing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Casual clothing/shoes for travel and city wear (lightweight, easily washable)<input type="checkbox"/> Light rain/windproof jacket<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-weight fleece/softshell<input type="checkbox"/> T-shirts<input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve shirt with collar<input type="checkbox"/> Lightweight hiking pants<input type="checkbox"/> Underwear/sports bra (quick drying)<input type="checkbox"/> Sleepwear<input type="checkbox"/> Warm hat (for chilly evenings in the desert)<input type="checkbox"/> Thin buff/neck scarf<input type="checkbox"/> Swimwear and coverup <p>Footwear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Comfortable lightweight walking/hiking shoes<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking socks, synthetic<input type="checkbox"/> Water shoes/sandals (useful for Aqaba)	<p>Assorted Personal Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Water bottles - 1 liter/1 quart x 2 (we encourage you to refill your bottles)<input type="checkbox"/> Sunblock and lip balm with SPF<input type="checkbox"/> Sun hat<input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses<input type="checkbox"/> Personal hygiene items (toothpaste, toothbrush, hand sanitizer, small travel towel, etc.)<input type="checkbox"/> Personal first aid kit, medications, blister prevention/treatment kit<input type="checkbox"/> Women: Tampons – difficult to obtain in rural areas<input type="checkbox"/> Headlamp with spare batteries<input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellent<input type="checkbox"/> Alarm Clock<input type="checkbox"/> Camera/memory cards/battery (limited charging options at Feynan Ecolodge)<input type="checkbox"/> Dry bag for camera & other essentials that cannot get wet (useful for Aqaba) <p>Don't forget!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Passport (for ID checks en route)<input type="checkbox"/> Jordan Pass -Explorer includes your entry visa and entrance to main sites such as Jerash, Petra, and Wadi Rum. (<i>JTB covers this cost for hosted delegates</i>)<input type="checkbox"/> Travel/Medical/Evacuation insurance<input type="checkbox"/> Air tickets<input type="checkbox"/> Money - cash/debit cards/credit cards
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Cancellation Policy

<http://experiencejordan.com/terms-conditions>

For 1-9 people:

31+ Days before the trip 20% processing fee (with a \$100 minimum charge per person).

30 – 8 Days before the trip 50% cancellations charge

7 – 1 Days before the trip 100% cancellation charge

For Groups 10+ people:

31+ Days before the trip 20% processing fee (with a \$100 minimum charge per person).

30 – 1 Days before the trip 100% cancellations charge.

If paying by credit card directly through the office, there is an additional 6% charge to cover the credit card company commission costs, which we still pay even when providing a refund.

If paying by PayPal, there are no additional PayPal charges if the refund is requested within 2 months of the original payment. After this period the refund amount will be sent through PayPal, but the customer must pay the normal PayPal charges to receive this payment.

Refund Policy

If you cancel your trip and qualify for a refund, as per the cancellation policy above, we will process the refund within 1 week of agreement to the refund. The money will normally be refunded by the same method the payment was made, unless mutually agreed by both parties to transfer the refund by a different method.

About Experience Jordan

We hope you love this itinerary! We want you to know we do more than just offer unique experiences in Jordan. So here are our top 5 reasons to book with us.

1. Our attention to details will make your trip smooth and easy and ensure that you won't miss out on any fun adventures along the way.
2. Our knowledgeable staff will assist you in whatever your chosen activity is, whether you are sightseeing, hiking, biking, or any combo of the above.
3. Our deep love of Jordan means that we want to share with you what makes Jordan an amazing place to be by showing you the "real" Jordan beyond what tourists typically see and experience.
4. Our heart for the communities we interact with will allow you to interact with Jordanians and learn about what makes Jordanians unique in the Middle East.
5. Our passion for you our honored guests. Our goal is for you to finish your time in Jordan with unforgettable memories, amazing photos and stories, and full bellies. Because when you visit Jordan, you are family.

But don't just take our word for it. [Check out our reviews on Trip Advisor!](#)